## REMARKS

In the Office Action dated July 17, 2006, claims 8 and 16 were allowed, and claims 1-7 and 9-15 were rejected based on prior art references.

By the present Amendment, independent claim 1 has been cancelled and the claims previously depending from claim 1 have now been made to depend from allowed independent claim 8. Similarly, independent claim 9 has been cancelled and the claims previously depending from claim 9 have now been made to depend from allowed independent claim 16.

In view of the previous allowance of claims 8 and 16, all claims of the application are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

The present Amendment does not raise any new issues requiring further searching or consideration, and therefore entry of the Amendment after the final rejection is proper, and the same is respectfully requested.

Early reconsideration of the application is also respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

(Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN LLP

Patent Department 6600 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312/258-5790 Attorneys for Applicants.

CH1\ 4702853.1